

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. The Proceedings of Yesterday.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE NEWS.] COLUMBIA, December 1. In the Senate, the consideration of the bill to revise, simplify and abridge the rules, practice and pleadings of the courts of the State was postponed.

The report of the Committee on the Judiciary on a bill to recharter the bridge across the Savannah River at Hamburg, was made the special order for Saturday.

The report of the Committee on the Judiciary on a bill to define the manner of collecting taxes past due received its second reading.

The report (favorable) of the Committee on Contingent Accounts on account of J. W. Denny was adopted.

A bill (by Rainey) to amend the charter of the Georgetown Railroad Company, and the several acts amendatory of the same, was referred to the Railroad Committee.

A bill (by Nash) to protect from arrest any member of the State police for any alleged offence committed by him in the discharge of his duties was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

A bill (by Nash) to grant and give the consent of the Legislature of this State to the conveyance to the United States of the lot of land situated on Richardson and Laurel streets, in the City of Columbia, for the purpose of a post-office and court-house, and to cede to the United States jurisdiction therein, was referred to the same committee.

A bill (by Nash) to grant a certain lot of land to the Zion Baptist Church of Columbia, was referred to the Committee on Incorporations.

A bill (by Nash) to amend an act entitled "An act to provide for the temporary appointment of magistrates, and to define their powers and duties," was read a second time.

A bill (by Cain) to authorize an appropriation of two millions of dollars in State bonds for the purchase of lands in this State for homesteads was referred to the Committee on Finance.

A bill (by Nash) to renew the charter of the Columbia Hebrew Benevolent Society received a second reading.

The Committee on Elections submitted their report in the Abbeville contested election case. The report is signed by Wright, colored, Hoyt and Buck. They state that if they were to sit a month longer at Abbeville than both Cochran and Giffin would continue to be poured in, and that, in their opinion, the Senate only could determine which of the two claimants should be seated.

Hoyt, Owen and Rose concurred in the report, but submitted a supplementary report, stating that the polling at Calhoun's Mills was illegal, and recommending that Giffin be declared elected. Both reports were made the special order for to-morrow.

Bills to incorporate the African Methodist Episcopal Church of the State, and to extend the time for taking the census, were read a first time.

The following notices were given: By Cain, of the petition of Toney Stafford to run a line of row boats from Charleston to James Island. By Cain, a bill to define the nature and magnitude of crimes punishable by imprisonment in the penitentiary. By Wimbush, to prevent the official misconduct of county officers.

The House was engaged in the discussion of the bills to amend the homestead law, to regulate divorces, and to amend the act relative to the recording of mortgages. Nothing was done.

The joint resolutions of sympathy with Cuba led to a long discussion and were adopted—yeas 72, nays 21. The Senate concurred, all the senators, except Leslie, voting in the affirmative.

James C. Janney, a prominent citizen, died from apoplexy early this morning.

THE NEW DISPERSION. A DISGRACEFUL SCENE IN THE STATE CAPITOL.

Some Opinions of Judge Carpenter—Disgraceful Exhibition in the House—Attempt of McKinley to Establish Relationship with DeLarge—Elliott, the War-horse of the House, Expresses his Opinion of the Conduct of the Members—What a Delay Saved the State—Charleston Free Schools—A Model Radical Judge—The Columbia Canal—Railroad Lobbyists—Proposed Fight over Proxies, &c.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.] COLUMBIA, November 30. In the Senate to-day, very little business of interest was transacted, and little more of the House. However, the proceedings in the latter assumed a rather novel character for a body legislating for a State. It was "the scene," as Elliott, colored, very properly said, "of a disgraceful exhibition." But before entering upon an account of that, it would be well to let the readers of The News know what is the opinion of one or two legislators in regard to—

JUDGE CARPENTER. Presentments of the grand jury of 86 "all counties were read; among them, one from the jury of Orangeburg County denouncing the magistrates of the county as incompetent, and as thorough nances, and requesting the Legislature to take some measures which would insure the appointment of men better fitted to perform the duties than magistrates usually are. It was understood that this clause of the presentment was by request of Judge Carpenter, who it is said has recently rendered a decision relative to homesteads which did not meet the approval of the colored people—among whom are DeLarge and Ransler—of their uncomplimentary remarks about that official he expressed his feelings. DeLarge wound up his remarks by expressing the opinion that the Judge had sworn to impartially perform his duties, and had been confided in, but had proved recreant to his trust.

SHORTLY AFTER this, the bill amending the act providing for the enumeration of the inhabitants of the State was taken up for passage. It provides for the repeal of the section of the act for paying the census takers up to the first of November, and extends the time to the first of December. This provoked a hot discussion, during which DeLarge spoke. John B. Wright, colored, of Charleston, denounced the census takers generally, and intimated that DeLarge desired to dip his hands too deep into the State treasury; that he wanted six dollars a day as a member of the Legislature and five dollars as a census taker. DeLarge attempted to reply, but Alderman McKinley, after every sentence, "arose to a point of order," which persistent Speaker Moses equalled by always deciding that the point was not well taken. He it known that, probably, McKinley intended introducing at an early day a bill to exempt certain brands

of liquor from taxation, and, probably, before coming to the House had been looking at the brands with a view of determining which should be exempted; and for this or some other reason he became very glib and obstinate. He attempted to say something, what he did not know, at least his audience did not. He was frequently called to order, and became indignant, to which point DeLarge also arrived. Observing this, McKinley attempted his conciliatory powers, and proceeded to relate something, which he remarked, "would make the members smile." His story was very rambling, and embraced scraps of almost all of the information he possessed; but the gist of it was that he was once a tailor, and met DeLarge's mother and admired her very much and wanted to marry her, and, (with an incoherent smile), said how nearly he came to being Bob's father, and how nearly Bob came to being his son.

During this outburst there was the utmost disorder. Many of the members were standing, and nearly all rising to "points of order." The speaker, with his gavel and shouts for order, was making as much fuss as nearly all combined. Finally, DeLarge, who did not appear to like the conciliatory mood, nor the man who came so near being related to him, got a chance to speak, and intimated that McKinley was strongly impregnated with "morphine," and that Wright was too cowardly to go outside of "the four walls of the city" of Charleston—fearing to "trust his precious carcass" where there was a chance of getting injured, and further he (Wright) was not so extraordinarily honest; that he knew nothing of the census, or any other law; that he had consistently and with a perseverance worthy of a better cause advocated himself for the seat last session and neglected his duty as a legislator. Having devoted this much of his remarks to demolishing his opponents, (McKinley and Wright), the former all the while smiling in a sickly, feeble sort of way, and the latter laughing until, like Santa Claus'—"stomach," he "shook like a bowl full of jelly," he proceeded to talk of himself, and of the census, and was a sore subject for him to talk of as he had lost most of his speech by shouting lead into him. When, after concluding his remarks he went over to Wright's seat and shook hands with him, whereupon he laughed all the more.

ELLIOTT EXPRESSES HIS OPINION. At this point Elliott (colored) arose. Elliott occupies the same position in the House that ex-Alderman T. J. Mackey occupied in Council after that affectionate attempt to increase the weight of his nephew by shooting lead into him. When ever he arose the Aldermen looked anxiously at the doors of the chamber to see if they were open, then at him, to ascertain, if possible, at once what was his mood. Now, Elliott having withheld a white carpet-bagger, and thereby acquired a reputation for bravery and recklessness, he, colored brethren, whenever he arises, leaves him with an expression which means admiration slightly alloyed with uneasiness. He may "break out," however, as stated, he arose, and all eyes were turned to him, and he commenced a hearty abuse of the recent scene of disorder, and had succeeded in characterizing it as a "most disgraceful exhibition," when Alderman McKinley obtained the floor and desired to know, or, rather, led the members to infer that he desired to know, if he was one of those who had contributed to the disgraceful exhibition; whereupon Elliott stated that he was not particularly referred to. Alderman McKinley then benignly smiled and sat down, which seemed to be a signal for everybody else to get up. Motion followed motion, points of order were raised, the Speaker's gavel kept up an incessant rapping, but quiet was not restored until the shouters were hoarse. In the full that ensued, a motion to pass the bill was made and carried, and the members sank back in their seats exhausted from laughter and their exertions.

THAT EXHAUSTED. During the debate, Mr. Sparnick, Commissioner of Agricultural Statistics, received several taps for not furnishing the proper books to the census takers by the 15th of April, as he was directed to do. What was probably neglect—it could not have been any desire to vex the State any more—really caused a saving to the State. He furnished the books to his subordinate officers at the time designated, and the census taking then commenced and continued to the 1st of November, which was the time fixed for the final report of the subordinate to the commissioner, the expense would have been largely greater than if already has been, for the simple reason, that very few of these officers would have felt under any obligation to do it. From April 15th to June 1st, say forty-five days, the pay of thirty-one chief census takers, at \$5 per day, would be \$1575; one hundred and thirty assistants, at \$4 per day, would be \$5220—in all, \$6795. 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